COLCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Colchester, CT

POLICY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Monday, October 18, 2021 at **5:30 PM**
Virtual Meeting via BoardDocs and Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christopher McGlynn, Amy Domeika, Suesen Hickey
ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Superintendent Jeffrey Burt
OTHERS PRESENT: Chair Mary Tomasi

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Chair C. McGlynn called the meeting to order at 5:32PM.

2. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
   None.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT
   None.

4. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 *Approval of September 20, 2021 Policy Committee minutes

Motion by: A. Domeika
To approve the minutes of the September 20, 2021 Policy Committee meeting
Second by: S. Hickey
Vote: Unanimous
Roll Call: A. Domeika, S. Hickey, C. McGlynn

5. *PRIORITY DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS: POLICIES/REGULATIONS FOR A FIRST READING

5.1 Mass Mailings and Communications to the Board

Superintendent discussed BOE communications and procedures around sharing communications received. Chair Tomasi pointed to the policy 9325 Meeting Conduct that expressly states communicators in meetings must identify themselves. Anonymous communications do not allow for BOE response. Committee Chair McGlynn suggested creation of policy language stating that individual or organization identification and contact information should be included in BOE communications. Policy 1120 Board of Education Meetings will be revised to clarify communications to the BOE.

5.2 Legislative Summary and Timeline for Policy Action

Superintendent Burt shared a legislative summary and a timeline for policy action based on recent statutory requirements.

5.3 5141.3P Health Assessments, Screenings, and Immunizations
This policy is currently under review by District medical advisor, but Superintendent Burt shared the update to language about vaccine exemptions from legal counsel Shipman and Goodwin. Chair McGlynn asked about younger siblings being included in an older sibling's exemption if the younger sibling wasn't enrolled in school prior to the effective exemption date.

5.4 0050P Code of Ethics / 9271B Code of Ethics Bylaw
This policy and Bylaw both relate to the BOE code of ethics, but contain many redundancies. Superintendent suggested the Bylaw be more in line with a BOE member "code of conduct" to distinguish the Bylaw from the policy. Discussion ensued on whether to retain two separate policies, or incorporate both BOE code of ethics and BOE code of conduct into one policy or Bylaw. The Committee agreed to remove language "I will…" from each point in the policy and replace with "The Board will…"

5.5 9325B Meeting Conduct
Shipman and Goodwin have provided language addressing BOE participation protocol for virtual meetings and hybrid meetings, which will be required after the April 30, 2022 virtual meeting requirement ends. Discussion ensued about technology required to be able to hold hybrid meetings. This policy will be addressed after April 30, 2022 to remove obsolete language.

5.6 6172.2P Parent-Teacher Communication
This new, proposed policy includes language about offering virtual parent-teacher conferences in addition to in-person conferences.

5.7 3542.43P and 3542.43R Food Service Charging Policy
Superintendent Burt shared updates to the food service charging policy including delinquent payments and treatment of "bad debt."

Motion by: A. Domeika
To forward policies 5.5 9325B Meeting Conduct, 5.6 6172.2P Parent-Teacher Communication, and 5.7 3542.43P and 3542.43R Food Service Charging Policy to the full BOE for a first reading.
Second by: S. Hickey
Vote: Unanimous
Roll Call: A. Domeika, S. Hickey, C. McGlynn

6. OTHER POLICIES REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION
None.

7. *CONTINUED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

7.1 *Temporary Policies Review

All temporary policies will be reviewed monthly and updated as needed to align with any new legislation.

8. *NON-SUBSTANTIVE POLICIES

None.

9. *POLICIES/REGULATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR REMOVAL

None.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW ISSUES RAISED OR SUBJECTS DEVELOPED

None.

11. ESTABLISH November 15, 2021 AGENDA PRIORITIES

11.1 Recent statutory requirements are under review and are priority items. Priorities also include updates of Series 6000 policies.

12. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM.